



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Oct. 11, 2007

For immediate release

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STATE LOANS AND FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – A WINNING COMBINATION FOR SMALLER OPEN FEEDLOTS

MEDIA CONTACT: Patti Cale-Finnegan at DNR, (515) 725-0498; David Brommel at NRCS, (515) 284-4353.

DES MOINES – Small open feedlots may find a winning combination this fall if they want to improve their open feedlot by moving part or all of it under a roof.

“For the first time, we’ll be able to offer a low interest loan to producers who want to replace part or all of their open feedlot with a deep-bedded confinement,” said Patti Cale-Finnegan, the DNR’s loan coordinator.

“Loans are available to small and mid-size operations and can be used as a sole source of financing or can be combined with an application for federal financial assistance,” Cale-Finnegan said.

Producers who would like to combine the loan with federal financial assistance should apply for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Apply this fall at local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service offices for funding in 2008.

“In the past, EQIP has provided funding for about \$100 per animal unit,” Cale-Finnegan said. “Converting to a confinement building often costs producers about \$400 to \$500 per animal unit, so the low interest loan is an attractive option.”

Loans are available for the buildings because they confine the animals and manure, preventing runoff or discharge of the manure. Projects that will benefit Iowa’s water quality and environment are eligible. Because of federal funding sources, the loans are available only to facilities with less than 1,000 beef cattle, 700 mature dairy cows or 2,500 finishing hogs.

Funding can be used for deep-bedded buildings that:

- 1) Replace an existing open feedlot, or
- 2) Expand a facility as an addition to an existing open feedlot, provided the existing open feedlot remains in compliance with all environmental rules.

The loans cannot be used for some of the minor costs of the project, such as feed bunks or watering facilities, that don’t have a direct benefit to the environment or Iowa’s water quality.

Producers may apply for loans through many local lenders. Applications and more information about the program are available through the Iowa Agricultural Development Authority, which administers the loan program in cooperation with the DNR. Contact Jeff Ward, (515) 281-6444 or go to http://www.iada.state.ia.us/livestock_wqfp.htm.

Writer: Karen Grimes

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SIDEBAR: DNR APPROVES LOW INTEREST LOANS FOR SMALL OPEN FEEDLOTS

The DNR’s new rules that allow livestock producers to apply for low interest loans to replace part or all of their open feedlot with a deep-bedded confinement were effective Oct. 3. The DNR has approved applications for loans in the following counties:

Hardin County: A \$230,000 loan used in conjunction with federal Environmental Quality Incentives (EQIP) financial assistance and the applicant’s funds. The loan will be used to replace an existing open feedlot with a 450-head cattle confinement building.

Hardin County: A \$405,000 loan combined with EQIP and the applicant’s funds for a \$502,000 project. The applicant plans to replace an existing open feedlot with two 450-head cattle confinement buildings.

Crawford County: A \$450,000 loan will be combined with EQIP and the applicant's funds to replace an existing open feedlot with hoop buildings to hold 999 cattle. The total project cost will be \$500,000.

Writer: Karen Grimes

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LINE BREAK LEADS TO CORALVILLE WASTEWATER BYPASS

MEDIA CONTACT: Dennis Ostwinkle at (319) 653-2135.

CORALVILLE — A break in a sewer main led to a wastewater discharge in Coralville Wednesday.

The discharge from a broken 10-inch force main at 2060 Brown Deer Road began at 11:30 a.m. and lasted about an hour. The City of Coralville estimates less than 10,000 gallons of untreated wastewater reached a small unnamed creek. That creek flows into Muddy Creek and eventually the Iowa River.

The city shut off the lift pump when it discovered the line break and used its wastewater collection system for storage while making repairs to the line. The city has also notified downstream water users.

Writer: Jessie Brown

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DNR ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

MEDIA CONTACT: Jessie Brown at (515) 281-5131.

DES MOINES — The DNR took the following enforcement actions in August and September 2007, unless otherwise noted. The following are only briefs; please contact Jessie Brown of the DNR for more information at (515) 281-5131.

Enforcement actions, including copies of the original orders and contact information, are available on the DNR's Web site at www.iowadnr.gov/legal/eactions.html. The Web listing offers orders first taken in 2007 (amendments to orders issued prior to 2007 are not listed).

Consent Orders

A consent order is issued as an alternative to issuing an administrative order. A consent order indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

Harrison County

- Nebraska Pork Partners, of Woodbine, agreed in a consent order to comply with manure release reporting requirements and to retain all manure in confinement structures between periods of proper land application. Nebraska Pork Partners also agreed to pay a \$5,000 penalty and \$600.92 in fish restitution. The consent order is in regard to a manure discharge at a site in Woodbine and resulting fish kill in Elk Creek and Willow Creek.

Lucas County

- The Water Board of the Chariton Municipal Water Works, of Chariton, agreed in a consent order to comply with water disinfection, reporting and monitoring requirements and provide public notification of turbidity exceedences. The Water Board also agreed to pay a \$1,500 penalty and other stipulated penalties if certain requirements of the consent order are not met. The consent order is in regard to water supply violations.

Plymouth, Woodbury Counties

- Hebert Construction Co., of Sioux City, agreed in a consent order to pay a \$1,500 penalty. The consent order is in regard to illegal dumping and open burning violations at a site in Plymouth County.

Washington County

- Eugene Reed, of Washington, agreed in a consent order to submit a complete Iowa Phosphorus Index Manure Management Plan (MMP) and pay a \$2,000 penalty. The consent order is in regard to failure to submit an MMP for a site in Washington County.

Consent Amendments

A consent amendment is issued in settlement of a previous administrative order or to amend a pre-existing consent order. A consent amendment indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

Carroll County

- Scott Lenz, of Carroll, agreed to a consent amendment that resolves a 2005 administrative order regarding animal feeding operations. The amendment was agreed upon in June.

Clayton County

- The City of Strawberry Point agreed in a consent amendment to pay a \$3,000 penalty. This amends a 2003 administrative order regarding violations at the city's wastewater treatment facility.

Kossuth County

- Hoover Land Corp., of Algona, Iowa, dba River Road Golf Club, agreed in a consent amendment to pay a \$700 penalty. This amends a 2005 administrative order regarding water supply violations.

Scott County

- Peeters Development Co., Inc., owner of Mt. Joy Mobile Home Park, agreed in a consent amendment to pay a \$5,000 penalty. This amends a 2005 administrative order regarding wastewater violations at the mobile home park in Scott County. The penalty has been paid.

Tama County

- The City of Chelsea agreed in a consent amendment to pay a \$2,000 penalty. This amends a 2002 administrative order regarding violations at the city's wastewater treatment facility.

Writer: Jessie Brown